

AUBURN BOROUGH COUNCIL
APRIL 2, 2025 MINUTES

The monthly meeting of Auburn Borough Council was held on Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at 7 P.M., in the Auburn Community Center, 451 Pearson Street. In attendance: Council President John Eckert, Vice-President Doug Naftzinger, and Council-members Jesse Spencer and Liz Shaner. Also present: Mayor Frank Cataldi, Solicitor Stanley Burke, Engineer Chip Pohronezny, and Secretary-Treasurer Brenda Fessler.

The meeting was called to order by President Eckert who opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

March 2025 Minutes and Financial Reports

A motion was made by Jesse, 2nd by Liz, to accept the March minutes and reports as submitted. Motion carried.

Approval to Pay Bills

A motion was made by Liz, 2nd by Doug, to approve payment of check #16591 through #16606, as attached to the April agenda. The motion also includes payment of the regular monthly April invoices after they are reviewed, approved, and signed by President Eckert or Vice-President Naftzinger. Motion carried. The complete April check register and end of month reports are included with the April minutes.

Council-Member Appointment

At this time President Eckert asked for nominations to fill the vacant seat on Borough Council. Doug Naftzinger nominated James Fox. There were no other nominations. A motion was made by Jesse, 2nd by Liz, to appoint James Fox to fill Melissa Schwenk's term. All in favor, motion carried. Jim was sworn in to office by Mayor Cataldi.

Recognition of Guests

A list of guests attending this meeting is included with these minutes.
--At this time, Engineer Heath Machamer presented a proposal on behalf of Terry Shaner.

The first proposal would be for the construction of multi-unit apartments on Front and Washington Streets, as well as an extra garage facility for the Auburn Fire Company. The access road would be privately maintained and would most likely need approval to extend Second Street. Other requirements would be from the Sch. County Conservation District, Sch. County Zoning, Auburn Municipal Authority and Borough, etc. It was confirmed that there would be no maintenance on the borough's end. The developer, Terry Shaner, stated that these proposals would not involve "section 8 housing" and also mentioned that the project would hopefully solve some of the water issues. The engineer agreed that they will try to alleviate many of the problems with water run-off.

The second proposal is a similar concept on Orchard Street. These units may have garages underneath each dwelling or possibly create more parking on the first block of Orchard Street.

Ned Beck expressed concern that the water system may not be adequate to handle fires and could create added strain on the fire department and emergency services.

Mayor Cataldi said he supported the projects as it would mean more tax dollars in addition to hopefully solving some water issues.

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Complaints/Complaint Forms

--One submitted regarding a resident harboring trash on their back yard/porch and waiting weeks to take it out for collection. A motion was made by Jesse, 2nd by Liz, authorizing Mayor Cataldi to notify and speak to the residents to resolve this issue. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Animal Control – Kyle Schwenk

No report

Mayor – Frank Cataldi

--The mayor recently swore in David Frey and Rachel Frey as fire police officers.
--Mayor Cataldi had several complaints of golf carts operating on borough streets and confirmed that he took care of the problem.
--He will also look into a complaint of a vehicle parked in the 200 block of Washington Street with no license and no inspection sticker.

A motion was made by Doug, 2nd by Liz, to accept this report. Motion carried.

Safety – Jesse Spencer

No report

Fire & Ambulance

--The Fire Company responded to (7) calls for the month of March. Four in South Manheim, one in Wayne Twp., one in Windsor Twp., and one in Port Clinton.
--The Ambulance responded to (18) calls for the month of March. One in Auburn, three in West Brunswick, four in South Manheim, five in Hamburg, one in Port Clinton, three in Orwigsburg, and one in Sch. Haven.

A motion was made by Liz, 2nd by Jesse, to accept this report. Motion carried.

SEO/Engineer – Chip Pohronezny

--A copy of the monthly report was distributed to Council-members. The full report is on file.
--Doug asked the status of the NOV issued to 426 Washington Street. SDE recommended that Mayor Cataldi follow up on the citation with the District Magistrate.

A motion was made by Jesse, 2nd by Liz, to accept this report. Motion carried.

Tax Collector – Marlene Naftzinger

--March 2025 total collected- Real Estate =\$12,715.71 and Per Capita \$1,038.80.

A motion was made by Doug, 2nd by Liz, to accept this report. Motion carried.

The full report is on file.

Sanitation – Melissa Schwenk

--March 2025 total collected = \$5,305.00

--Melissa will be asked to submit a list of accounts to proceed with sheriff sales or liens by the May meeting.

--Doug asked for a copy of the entire list of customers who receive garbage bills.

A motion was made by Liz, 2nd by Jesse, to accept this report. Motion carried.

Municipal Authority

--March minutes received, scanned, and emailed to Council-members

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Streets & Roads – John Eckert

--Maintenance was recently completed on the leaf vac.

--The crew will be patching potholes within the next week as well as cleaning out storm drains.

--A motion was made by Jesse, 2nd by Doug, authorizing Terry Shaner's company to do the work on Bear Creek Street and agreeing to use a 12 inch pipe for the repairs. Motion carried. John Eckert mentioned that some of the homes might be illegally hooked into those lines, (wildcat drains), and asked what will be done with that issue. He said that, because the Municipal Authority is in charge of the collection system, they should be informed of the work. No further discussion with regard to this matter.

--A motion was made by Jesse, 2nd by Doug, to authorize Shaner to repair a storm drain on the corner of 531 Bear Creek Street. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Jesse, 2nd by Liz, to accept this report. Motion carried.

Solicitor – Stanley Burke

--Stan reported that due to an error at the County Courthouse the April judicial sale of the Bear Creek Street property is not on the docket and is now set for October 2025.

Blue Mt. Recreation – Liz Shaner

--The minutes and financial reports from February were received.

SCOG

No report

Emergency Management – Eddie Schwenk

No report

OLD BUSINESS

--Bear Creek Street abandoned property judicial sale scheduled for October 2025

--No contact from Comcast regarding the franchise agreement

--The welcome letter is completed and will be mailed to all residents

--Estimates for the replacement of the roof on the old garage will be discussed at the May meeting.

--Citizen is needed to serve on the Blue Mt. Rec. Board

--Need to prepare an advertisement asking for bids for the 1992 Chevy Truck.

NEW BUSINESS

--A motion was made by Jesse, 2nd by Doug, to approve a resolution increasing the tax collector's duplicate fee from \$5.00 to \$10.00 per each request. Motion carried.

--The mosquito/west nile virus monitoring was scheduled to begin at the end of March.

--A motion was made by Jesse, 2nd by Liz, giving permission to the Historical Society to change the lock on the door in the borough garage. Motion carried. They also expressed their thanks for allowing them the use of the building for their meetings and displays.

--Spring clean-up date was scheduled for May 17th, from 8 – 12 noon.

--A motion was then made by Jesse, 2nd by Liz, to adjourn for a brief executive session regarding an employee matter. After a 10 minute recess a motion was made by Jesse, 2nd by Liz, to resume the regular meeting. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at 7 p.m.. A work session will be held, if needed, at 6 p.m. before the meeting. A motion was made to adjourn the April meeting by Liz, 2nd by Doug. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted By, Brenda J. Fessler-Secretary-Treasurer

